

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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61

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SY-10 USSS-00 NEA-10 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 PM-07 NSC-10 SPC-03 SS-20 PA-04 PRS-01

USIA-15 CCO-00 SSO-00 DODE-00 OPR-02 /112 W

----- 009812

R 181101Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1354

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOGADISCIO 1557

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR SO XF

SUBJ: SOMALI REACTION TO ME WAR

REF: MOGADISCIO 1547

1. SUMMARY: PRESIDENT SIAD SENT MESSAGE TO PRESIDENT NIXON URGIN U.S. RESTRAINT IN MIDEAST. HOWEVER, LOCAL SCENE STILL SHOWS LITTLE EVIDENCE OF POPULAR CONCERN OR EXCITEMENT OVER MIDEAST.

2. OFFICIAL NEWS AGENCY REPORTS MESSAGE OF PRESIDENT SIAD TO PRESIDENT NIXON EVENING OF OCT 17, REFERRING TO REPORTS THAT U.S. "INTENDS DIRECT MILITARY INTERVENTION" IN MIDDLE EAST AND URGIN RESTRAINT. (MOGADISCIO 1550). GSDR HAS NOT CONTACTED EMBASY ON THIS SUBJECT.

3. IT WAS ANNOUNCED THAT FIRST SHIPMENT OF 500 TONS (INSTEAD PREVIOUSLY ANNOUNCED 250 TONS) CANNED MEAT AND FISH FOR ARABS LEFT MOGADISCIO BY EGYPTIAN PLANE OCT 17. MORE FLIGHTS ARE TO FOLLOW. PRESS ALSO REFERS TO FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS FROM INDIVIDUALS THROUGHOUT COUNTRY.

4. THERE CONTINUES TO BE LITTLE SPECIFIC REFERENCE TO U.S.

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IN PRESS, OTHER THAN QUOTED TEXTS OF SIAD MESSAGE TO NIXON

(PARA 1 ABOVE) AND DRAFT OAU LIBERATION COMMITTEE RESOLUTION (MOGADISCIO 1553). MOGADISCIO REMAINS QUIET, APART FROM PRACTICE MARCHING FOR PARTICIPATION IN OCT 21 ANNIVERSARY PARADE.

5. AT OPENING OF LOCAL TRADE FAIR, EVENING OF OCT 17, PRE-SIDENT SIAD MADE BRIEF REMARKS AND THEN VISITED SEVERAL PAVILIONS, INCLUDING U.S., WHERE HE WAS GREETED BY AMBASSADOR. ATMOSPHERE WAS FRIENDLY AND THERE WAS NO REFERENCE TO MIDEAST.

6. DCM HAD BRIEF CONVERSATION WITH POLICE COLONEL JAMA AT FAIR OPENING MENTIONED ABOVE. JAMA SAID THAT VISITORS IN MOGADISCIO WERE UNDER VERY CLOSE SURVEILLANCE, AND EVERYTHING WAS UNDER CONTROL.
KIRK

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 OCT 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973MOGADI01557
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS KIRK
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: MOGADISCIO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731024/aaaaarrp.tel
Line Count: 76
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: MOGADISCIO 1547
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09-Jan-2002 by smithrj>; APPROVED <29-Jan-2002 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOMALI REACTION TO ME WAR
TAGS: PFOR, SO, XF, XI
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005